



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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In re Application of:

JAN - 3 2003

Bator et al.

TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

Serial No.: 09/751,975

Group Art Unit: 3724

Filed: December 29, 2000

Examiner: Prone, Jason

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
SEPARATING CIRCUIT BOARDS

Attorney Docket No.: 199-1933 (VGT 0137 PA)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

12/19/02

(Date of Deposit)

Dennis A. Hops

(Signature)

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION IN THE  
UNITED STATES TO OVERCOME  
A CITED PATENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.131

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I, Dennis Perry, hereby declare and state as follows:

1. I am a citizen of the United States and have a home address of 27603 Rose, Trenton, Michigan 48183.
2. I am one of the inventors of U.S. Serial No. 09/751,975 along with Chuck Elkins.
3. The Separating Circuit Boards disclosed and claimed in the subject patent application was conceived by Chuck Elkins and myself and was reduced to practice by us in the United States prior to December 21, 2000, which is the effective date of the prior art Reijnders patent (U.S. No. 6,464,121).

Serial No. 09/751,975

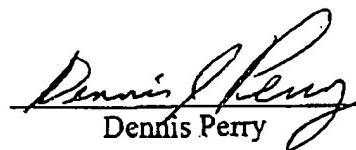
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199-1933 (VGT 0137 PA)

4. Enclosed with this Declaration, and identified as Exhibit A, is a copy of an internal invention disclosure document which discloses the present invention and has a creation date well in advance of the date of the Reijnders reference.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of the Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date: 12/19/2002

  
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Dennis Perry